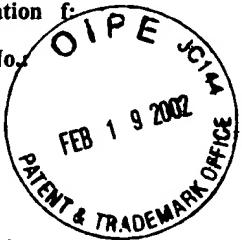


PATENT

\$73762

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application f:
Application No.: 09/696,378
Filed: October 25, 2000
For: DIMENSIONALLY STABLE BALLOONS
Examiner: Not yet assigned
Group Art Unit: 3762



Commissioner for Patent
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2-9503

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TC 1700

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

1. In regard to the above-identified application, we are submitting the attached:
1 pg Preliminary Amendment; 15 pg substitute specification; 15 pg marked up version specification; Check for \$372.00; VAS transmittal; and return postcard.
2. With respect to fees:
 No additional fee is required.
 Attached is check(s) in the amount of \$372.00
 Charge additional fee to our Deposit Account No. 22-0350.
3. **CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**
This conditional petition is being filed along with the papers identified in Item 1 above and provides for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time or for a petition and fee for any other matter petitionable to the Commissioner as required. If any extension of time for the accompanying response is required or if a petition for any other matter is required, by petitioner, Applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor.
4. Notwithstanding paragraph 2 above, if any additional fees associated with this communication are required and have not otherwise been paid, including any fee associated with the Conditional Petition for Extension of Time, or any request in the accompanying papers for action which requires a fee as a petition to the Commissioner, please charge the additional fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0350. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment associated with this communication to the Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

Date: January 15, 2002

By:

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Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8: I hereby certify that this Transmittal Letter and the paper(s) as described herein, are being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service, as FIRST CLASS MAIL, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on January 15, 2002.

Jayne Bisson
Jayne Bisson



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

In Re Application of: Chen et al
Application No.: 09/696,378
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Box
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Enclosed please find a substitute specification for the above-referenced patent application and a marked up version to show the changes made. The substitute specification includes a new claim set.

The material added to the specification was from documents which had previously been incorporated by reference. Specifically, the material is from US 6242063 and US 6284333 both of which are incorporated by reference on page 2 of the specification. No new matter has been added.

If a formal cancellation of original claims 1-16 is required, Applicants hereby authorize such action to be taken. Applicants intend to prosecute the new claim set including claims 1-36.

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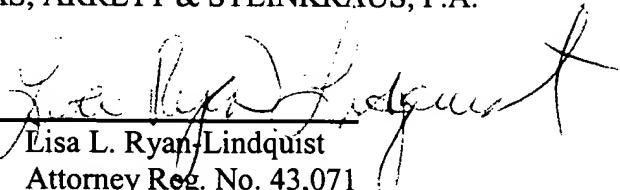
01 FC:102
02 FC:103

84.00 OP
288.00 OP

Date: January 15, 2002

Respectfully submitted,
VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A.

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